

Need of a Music Hall.

The success of the Thomas concert festival demonstrated several things worthy of the consideration of our people. No one could look over the vast sea of faces assembled in Armory Hall; notice the enthusiasm that marked the occasion, or recognize the proficiency of our choral union without being satisfied that Richmond is a musical community, and will, in proportion to population, give as substantial support to a high order of musical entertainment as any city in the Union. It was also apparent that what we alluded to a few days ago as the business feature of the festival was a success. People were in attendance from all portions of the State and took advantage of the occasion to combine business and pleasure. The city was extensively advertised, and it is reasonable to suppose that we could gather an equally large, if not a larger, crowd for a musical festival every year. But in order to do this we must have a music hall, or Armory Hall must be entirely remodelled as to methods of egress. It is speaking within bounds to say that it took forty-five minutes to clear the hall. Under these circumstances one shudders to think what would have been the consequences of a panic. With the floor obstructed as it was with chairs and the difficult exits, particularly from the galleries, the loss of life would have been appalling. We would, therefore, never be satisfied to have another entertainment of the same sort in Armory Hall as it now is. In the case of fairs and exhibitions, where there is a comparatively clear floor, the danger of panic is reduced to a minimum, and an excited crowd could be quickly settled, there is little to be feared. But for concerts, where the audience is seated, the hall will not do; that point was fully settled by the experience of last Wednesday night.

As intimated above, Armory Hall might be remodelled as to exits, but the better plan would be to build a concert hall, Richmond must have such a building sooner or later, if the city is to be rendered attractive to strangers. It would pay every merchant in Richmond to subscribe liberally to such an enterprise. The success of the Thomas concert is the best argument that can be advanced in support of this position. In this connection it may be mentioned that the Mozart people have hit upon a plan for a new hall which they have every reason to hope can be carried out successfully. Let them strike while the iron is hot, and erect such a building as the necessities of Richmond demand.

The City Engineer.

A proposition to increase the salary of the City Engineer has passed the Board of Aldermen, and to-morrow night will come up for consideration in the Common Council. There should be no hesitation on the part of the lower branch in passing it also, and thus placing the city beyond the ever-recurring danger of losing the services of a valuable, faithful, and experienced official. To allow Colonel CUTSHAW to accept one of the numerous offers that have been made him in other localities, in order that the city of Richmond may be saved a few hundred dollars a year, in the matter of his salary, would be a penny-wise pound-foolish policy, such as we would be most unwilling to associate with our city fathers. The fact is that it would be almost impossible for Richmond to secure the services of another engineer of Colonel CUTSHAW's merits for anything like the salary paid him. And we use the term merits in the broadest sense. We do not pretend to say that Colonel CUTSHAW is infallible. He has doubtless made mistakes, and some of the grumbling his plans and work have called forth from property-holders may not be unreasonable. But we do say that taking his work as a whole, and having a due regard for the means at his disposal, it will compare favorably with that of any city engineer in the United States. This is not only our judgment, but the judgment of visitors to Richmond—some of them experts—from all over the country. But above and beyond this—above and beyond the fact that a city of Richmond's pretensions and engineering necessities cannot and should not expect to retain the services of a competent man without giving him adequate compensation—there is another very important matter for the Council to consider. With the exception of the interest on the municipal debt and the salaries of certain officers and employees of the city, Colonel CUTSHAW has virtually mapped out directly or indirectly the disbursement of nearly all the rest of the revenue of the city for years. In performing this responsible task he has proved himself not only absolutely incorruptible, but free from even a suspicion of negligence. If he has been persistent occasionally in carrying out his plans against the judgment of a few tax-payers, he has been equally persistent at all times in seeing that the money of all tax-payers was not squandered in jobbery. We reiterate that there should be no hesitation on the part of the lower branch of the City Council in concurring in the action of the Board of Aldermen. We cannot believe that there will be if the Common Council will look at the case in all its aspects.

Colonel A. S. Buford.

To think of A. S. Buford is to think of the Richmond and Danville railroad. Not even WITT TENNANT's name recalls more of the history of that road, so peculiarly a Richmond road, than does the name of Colonel Buford. For eighteen years he was its president. For eighteen years he devoted his time, talents, and great executive abilities to that road, but never without an eye to the interests of Virginia and of this city. The resolutions which we publish this morning adopted on Thursday last by the Board of Directors of the company tell nothing but the truth when they attempt to describe Colonel Buford's labors, and tell what has resulted from them. Read those resolutions.

Colonel A. S. Buford.

It will be a matter upon which our people will congratulate themselves that Colonel Buford is not to go to New York but will remain amongst the people whom he has so faithfully served.

The Huntington Advertiser says.

Mr. Harris appeals to the infant corn-lainers in the mountain districts, who are the victims of the protective tariff, while

Mr. Snyder hopes to secure his renomination at the hands of the protected coal-miners and salt-makers of the valley country.

We publish this as a warning to Virginia Democrats. The Advertiser approves of Mr. Harris's course in arraigning one section of the district against the other, and one portion of the Democrats against the other. What will be the unavoidable result? Why, if Mr. Snyder agrees with the Advertiser and Mr. Harris that a Democrat is to be proscribed because of his opinions on the tariff question, and ought to be defeated of election to Congress if he does not agree in opinion with him (Snyder) then Mr. Snyder and Mr. Harris cannot consistently promise either one to support the other and not the other. And it would not surprise us at all if Mr. Harris should persuade himself before the district convention is held that the tariff is such an important question as to demand of him that he shall be a candidate for Congress whether nominated by his party or not.

Sell It.

The Legislature at its last session provided for selling several pieces of real estate in this city owned by the Commonwealth. If these lots are to be used and built upon this year, they will have to be sold at an early day. We suppose, therefore, that perhaps a better price could be obtained for them now than two months hence. Why they should not be sold at once, we cannot imagine. What says Governor CAMERON?

The Danville Register entirely concurs with the Dispatch in the opinion that there is no question of law involved in the matter, and the Convention can adopt whatever plan of appointing delegates it may choose, yet it mentions as objections to one plan that a member of Congress must be elected in each of the ten districts in November, at the same time that the electors of President and Vice-President are chosen, and asks, Is the new Tenth district to enter upon the canvass without any party organization whatever? It also says it would be better to appoint four and not six electors at large!

Now, Brother ANDERSON, your first remark proves that you know that the question whether four or six delegates at large shall be sent to the Chicago Convention is a question apart from all others. We maintain that it is simply a question as to which plan is better for the Democratic party. It has no connection whatever with these other questions. The delegates at large will have performed their one duty and become functi officio (as Mr. TUCKER would say) four months before the day of the presidential election. We would not dream of choosing more than four candidates for the office of elector at large. Nor of failing to have an organization in each of the new congressional districts. The elections for congressmen and electors are real elections. The selection of delegates to Chicago is a matter that nobody outside of the Democratic party has anything to do with. It has no necessary connection with any other matter; and we must have been very careless in expressing our ideas if we left upon the mind of any reader the impression that we thought otherwise. We have candidly stated what we desired, and all that we were after so far as this matter is concerned—namely, that two delegates at large should be selected from Tidewater, two from Piedmont, and two from west of the Blue Ridge—one of these last two from the Southwest and one from the other end of that grand division of the Commonwealth.

The Washington Post says that Mr. Eaton's recent speech was "particularly unflattering to a Democrat, and especially uncalculated for from one occupying the position during the war, which the gentleman from Connecticut did, in direct opposition to the sentiment of his State and the country."

That is to say, Mr. Eaton was a southern sympathizer during the war between the States.

The Baltimore American.

The Baltimore American, the leading Republican journal in Maryland, a friend to Mr. BLAINE, and the organ of the Blaineites of that State, says:

"The Convention that sent the Mahone delegation to Chicago represents nothing in Virginia except the Mahone-Arthur alliance. It is a dead thing of ill omen and evil memory, and should be contemptuously thrown aside at Chicago."

The Philadelphia Press.

The Philadelphia Press publishes a table to show that as between ARTHUR and BLAINE the votes of the Republican States—all of them "northern" States, as they are styled—would be divided thus: BLAINE, 304; ARTHUR, 73. It is votes of the southern States that run ARTHUR's strength up to over 200. Says the Press:

"Does anybody imagine that a Republican Convention will allow a President to be nominated in this way?"

The interviews with leading Democrats.

The interviews with leading Democrats of Southwest Virginia, published elsewhere in the Dispatch this morning, voice the sentiment of the Democratic party of the State in one respect at least. They are primarily for the nominee that will win.

BRIEF COMMENT.

A contemporary says: "A cyclone has carried away the LOGAN boom." Very much like loading a cannon to shoot a fly.

"Kellogg goes free under legal technicalities"; and the whitewash-brush has been hung up until the next one comes along.

Some of our contemporaries want Mr. HAYES run through the vindicting mill. There is a limit to the strain that even the vindicting mill can bear.

The Boston Globe says.

"Mr. KEENE came from the bounding West some years ago to New York to 'paint the town red.' And got painted blue.

"When a Mexican general is ordered to report at headquarters he takes to the woods." That is, stands not upon the order of his going, but leaves at once.

A Boston exchange says.

"We are sorry to see that there is such a scarcity of men suitable for office in Boston." Boston should send out and trap a few Ohio men.

The people of Point Pleasant, W. Va.

want to mob the jail. There is nothing so contaminating as bad association. Point Pleasant is just across the river from Ohio.

When the Arthurites allude to BLAINE.

as being tainted it is in order for the Blaineites to gently insinuate that ARTHUR has been

MARRIAGES.

Married, in Fulton, at the residence of the bride's father, W. H. Taylor, on the 24th inst., Miss MARY ANN LAUNDER, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Taylor, to Mr. J. M. LAUNDER, of this city.

Married, at the residence of the bride's mother, on Tuesday, April 30, 1884, Miss MARY M. EMMENTHAUSER, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. EMMENTHAUSER, both of this city.

Married, at St. Andrew's Episcopal church, on Wednesday, April 30, 1884, Miss MARY M. EMMENTHAUSER, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. EMMENTHAUSER, both of this city.

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DEATHS.

Died, yesterday (Saturday) morning at ten minutes of 10 o'clock, at his residence, 303 1/2 Main street, after a lingering illness, Mrs. FRANCES A. wife of John F. Mayer.

Died, at the residence of the deceased, at St. John's Episcopal church, this (Sunday) MORNING at 9 o'clock, Friends and relatives invited to attend the funeral service at 10 o'clock, from Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, corner Broad and Twelfth streets.

Died, at his late residence, corner of Twelfth and Clay streets, at 9 o'clock, JAMES E. RIDGICK, in the sixty-seventh year of his age.

The funeral will take place SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at 4 o'clock, from Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, corner Broad and Twelfth streets.

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EXCURSIONS, PIC-NICS, &c.

YOUNG'S POND, two and a half miles from Fair-grounds, on Hermitage road; beautiful grounds, new pavilion, row-boats, no trouble. Apply on premises or through city post-office to W. Y. MORDECAI, my 4-codm.

THE FIRST EXCURSION OF THE SEASON TO WASHINGTON VIA RAILROAD, FRIDAY, MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1884. Train leaves Elys Station, Richmond, at 8:30 o'clock, returning, leaving Washington at 10 o'clock P. M., giving you eleven hours no time lost from business. As the excursion will be run by the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, it will be good only on excursion train. Fare for Round Trip: Richmond to Washington and return, \$1.50; Fredericksburg to Washington and return, \$1.50. SPECIAL COACHES FOR COLORED PEOPLE. Tickets for sale by J. M. Thompson, 405 East Broad street; Anderson & Lyon, corner Broad and Main streets; L. Lambeth, 202 East Main street; also by the Committee at the train.

EXCURSION SEASON OPENED. Engagements can now be made by CHURCHES, MILITARY AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

MOONLIGHT EXCURSIONS. DAY EXCURSIONS TO OLD POINT, OCEAN VIEW, VIRGINIA BEACH, NOBLESVILLE, &c.

THE VIRGINIA STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S steamer "ARIEL" (now being refitted and renewed), at low rates—affording a liberal profit to organizations. L. B. TATUM, Superintendent, 1109 East Main street, ap 30

FOR RENT. NICE DWELLINGS. \$8 TO \$50 PER MONTH. 605 West Franklin, near Monroe Park; 12 100, corner Fifth and Cary streets; bath, &c.; 615 West Green, near Pine; 10 rooms; 619 North Fifth, between Clay and Leigh; 8 rooms; 511 North Twelfth street, near Clay; 8 rooms; 501, corner Seventh and Clay streets; 7 rooms; 1418 East Broad street; large lot; 7 rooms; 1219 West Clay street; good order; 6 rooms; 633 South Church street, Oregon Hill; 4 rooms; NICE SUITE OF ROOMS, No. 12 North Second street; use of bath; hot and cold water. J. THOMPSON BROWN & CO., Real Estate Agents, 1113 Main street, my 4-11

FOR RENT. LARGE THREE-ROOM BRICK DWELLING, No. 309 North Second street, containing a liberal profit to organizations. L. B. TATUM, Superintendent, 1109 East Main street, ap 30

FOR RENT. A VERY DESIRABLE HOME AND CONVENIENT SEVEN-ROOM FRAME DWELLING, in good order with all necessary out-buildings; also good land and fruit; situated on West Main street, near door to George E. Anderson's grocery. Rent, \$120 per annum. GEORGE E. ANDERSON, Justiciary street, my 4-11

FOR RENT. THE DESIRABLE BRICK DWELLING, No. 8 South First street, between Main and Cary. The house contains four rooms, bath, and all modern conveniences. Apply on the premises, my 4-21

FOR RENT. THE BAR-ROOM of the St. James Hotel for RENT FOR ONE YEAR. Possession given at once. Rent payable monthly. Apply at the office of the hotel, my 4-21

FOR RENT. STORE, WITH DWELLING above, in the western portion of the city. Rent low to a good tenant. R. H. CHAFFIN & CO